

CROSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held 11 January 2012 at 7.30 pm in The Old School, Croston.

Present Cllrs A Peet (Chairman), K Almond, R Baker, P Fenemore, K Iddon, B Paillusson, S Parkinson, G Stubbs, P Walmsley.

Also present Borough Councillor D Dickinson and 2 Members of the Public.

01.12 Apologies for Absence

None received.

02.12 Disclosure of Personal/Prejudicial Interests

None declared.

03.12 Minutes of Meeting held 14 December 2011

Resolved: the Minutes (as circulated) be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Resolved: Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to speak.

04.12 Councillor Vacancy

Councillors considered applications for co-option from Mr D Brandon and Mr B Paillusson.

Resolved: Bruno Paillusson be co-opted.

05.12 Public Participation

A representative of the local Churches advised the Churches wished to become more involved in village activities, including any celebrations to mark the Diamond Jubilee.

A resident advised of problems on Little Lane during the winter. The path is not gritted, which causes problems for elderly residents. The resident also complained of dog fouling on Station Road and Moor Road, parking on the pavement on Town Road and Moor Road opposite Dickinsons, and advised of a cycle accident by the new development on Moor Road.

Croston District has been awarded a certificate as second runner up for the highest percentage increase in Poppy Appeal collections over a three year period.

The new bus stops are awaiting signing off by Lancashire County Council's Cabinet Member.

Resolved: Standing Orders be restored.

06.12 Financial Matters

Councillors considered the financial update and bank reconciliation.

Resolved: the financial update be received and accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Resolved: the following payments be approved, the invoices having been inspected in accordance with fidelity guarantee requirements:

£ 350.39	Employee 1	Salary
£ 325.76	Employee 2	Salary
£ 75.20	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE
£ 28.80	Croston Old School	Room hire
£ 54.00	Wicksteed Leisure	Play area inspection

07.12 Planning Matters

11/01068/FUL Erection of a detached two storey house within the side garden area of 15 Riverside Crescent (resubmission of application 11/00676/FUL).

Resolved: an objection be lodged on the grounds that the application contravenes the Borough Council's policy on Private Residential Garden Development and, if permitted, would result in the further erosion of green space.

08.12 2012 -2013 Precept

Current memberships and subscriptions were reviewed.

Resolved: the existing memberships and subscriptions be renewed.

The introduction of a policy/protocol for the awarding of grants was discussed.

A proposal to judge each application on merit was defeated.

Resolved: a guideline ceiling for grants is to be set at a future meeting, but the Council is to be prepared to consider exceptional applications.

Councillors considered the Precept for the forthcoming financial year. A budget of £500 is to be introduced for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the grants budget is to be increased and additional monies put aside for the Recreation Ground improvements.

Resolved: the Precept for 2012 - 2013 be set at £21007, resulting in no increase in the cost of the Parish Council portion of council tax to residents

09.12 Flooding Issues

A request for the endorsement of comments made, by a Councillor and a resident of Rufford, to Lancashire County Council regarding the impending works to Great Hanging Gate Bridge was discussed. A response from Lancashire County Council was provided to Councillors. No action was proposed.

A forthcoming meeting for the Croston Community Flood Plan was discussed. It is intended to revert to the original concept of the Flood Plan, which was to provide residents with advice on what to do in the event of flooding. The implications of this were discussed, including the practicalities of road closures and facilities for emergency evacuation. Existing facilities and a hierarchy within the village need to be included in the plan, with local organisations playing a large part.

10.12 Reports from Outside Bodies (for information only)

No reports.

11.12 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 8 February 2012.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

..... (Chairman)